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FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7923
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 8592
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STATE INR/R/MR; IIP/R/MR; WHA/PD

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: WESTERN HEMISPHERE: CUBA; SAO PAULO

"Without Fidel, Tensions Will Worsen In Cuba"

Business-oriented Valor Economico (2/21) editorialized: "Cuba will not be the same after Fidel Castro's resignation. The Cuban Stalinist regime, which was isolated by the will of its enemies, especially the US, and by its leaders' ideology, has remote chances of survival.... Without Fidel, the already existing intolerable tensions will worsen. The socialist experience became a dictatorship of State and failed. The only way out is an opening to be conducted by a group of bureaucrats who do not have the dictator's charisma or popularity.... The US economic embargo is mortal for Cuba's economy.... Equality in poverty is an efficient but not eternal antidote to a situation that, looking to the future, is desperate."
White